

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method for configuring a configurable hardware block, the method which comprises:

configuring the hardware block using configuration data resulting from the implementation of commands or command sequences of a program which is to be executed, the implementation of the commands or command sequences including the following steps:

ascertaining a given type of subunit of a configurable hardware block, the given type of subunit being required for executing a respective command;

selecting, if available, a subunit of the given type of subunit;

configuring configurable connections provided around the subunit selected in the selecting step, if the subunit of the given type of subunit is found in the selecting step;

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checking if a destination, selected from the group consisting of a data destination[[7]] and a signal destination ~~and the destination being defined~~ by a command to be implemented, is a memory area ~~previously having~~ information written thereto also by a further subunit of the configurable hardware block, and performing the checking step when configuring the configurable connections provided around the subunit selected in the selecting step, for connecting the subunit to the destination;

using another memory area as the destination, if the destination defined by the command to be implemented is found to be a memory area which also has information written thereto by another subunit of the configurable hardware block; and

carrying out a register renaming process, as used for superscalar processors, for memory areas representing a same destination.

Claim 2. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises starting the implementing step with a first command of a command block having only one entry point and one exit point.

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Claim 3. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically ending the implementing step when a last command in a command block having only one entry point and one exit point has been implemented.

Claim 4. (original) The method according to claim 2, which comprises performing the implementing step on a hyperblock basis.

Claim 5. (original) The method according to claim 3, which comprises performing the implementing step on a hyperblock basis.

Claim 6. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically ending the implementing step if a hardware block component required for the implementing step is not available.

Claim 7. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically ending the implementing step if a hardware block component required for the implementing step is no longer available.

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Claim 8. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises assigning virtual units to functionally configurable physical subunits of the configurable hardware block, the virtual units representing functions which can be imparted to the functionally configurable physical subunits by respectively configuring the functionally configurable physical subunits.

Claim 9. (original) The method according to claim 8, which comprises entering the virtual units of all functionally configurable physical subunits of the configurable hardware block in a record selected from the group consisting of a table and a list.

Claim 10. (original) The method according to claim 9, which comprises providing the record with entries including information about associations between the functionally configurable physical subunits and the virtual units respectively assigned thereto.

Claim 11. (original) The method according to claim 9, which comprises providing the record with entries including information about how the functionally configurable physical subunits need to be configured for imparting the functions represented by the virtual units.

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Claim 12. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises selecting a physical subunit required for executing a command by searching for a virtual unit of a required type.

Claim 13. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises ensuring that a virtual unit of a required type selected for a use and that virtual units associated with a same physical subunit as the virtual unit selected for the use can no longer be selected for use in subsequent implementations.

Claim 14. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises checking whether a source, selected from the group consisting of a data source and a signal source and the source being defined by a command to be implemented, is a memory area previously having information written thereto by subunits of the configurable hardware block, and performing the checking step when configuring the configurable connections provided around the subunit selected in the selecting step, for connecting the subunit to the source.

Claim 15. (original) The method according to claim 14, which comprises using a given one of the subunits as the source, if the source defined by the command to be implemented is found

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to have had information written thereto by the given one of
the subunits of the configurable hardware block.

Claims 16. - 18. (canceled).

Claim 19. (original) The method according to claim 1, which
comprises:

carrying out a search for a memory area designated for
constants and containing a given constant, if a command to be
implemented includes the given constant; and

using the memory area designated for constants as a source
selected from the group consisting of a data source and a
signal source.

Claim 20. (original) The method according to claim 19, which
comprises:

storing the given constant in a new memory area designated for
constants, if the given constant is not already stored in
existing memory areas designated for constants; and

using the new memory area as the source.

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Claim 21. (original) The method according to claim 1, which comprises attempting to form pseudo-hyperblocks including a plurality of hyperblocks when implementing commands as configuration data..

Claim 22. (original) The method according to claim 21, which comprises forming the pseudo-hyperblocks by using an if-conversion.

Claim 23. (original) The method according to claim 21, which comprises implementing commands as configuration data on a pseudo-hyperblock basis if possible.

Claims 24. - 26. (canceled).